

MEETING MINUTES

STRATEGIC ACTION PLANNING GROUP ON AGING

Monday, May 23, 2016

9:00am – 12:00pm

1290 Broadway

First Floor, Independence Conference Room

Members present: Jim Riesberg (chair), Ky Agnew, Rob Andreson-Tenace, Wade Buchanan, Greg Coopman, Dale Elliott, Christian Itin, Jean Nofles, Sharron Williams, Jennifer Schaufele, Claire Anderson, Donna Baros, Linda Mitchell, Susan Franklin

By Phone: Karen Brown, Ben Moultrie, Steve Childs

I) Jim called the meeting to order and took roll call. There was a quorum of Planning Group members present.

II) The Minutes of April 25th meeting were approved with no comments or revisions.

III) Presentations

IV) Committee Reports

A) **Executive Committee.** Jim Riesberg provided an update for the Executive Committee. Meeting twice a month and working on the RFQ process. Talked about June meeting agenda as well as the importance of using the literature review. Jim shared that Barbara Raynor is resigning from the planning group because of a move to the east coast. Have been discussing:

- Fundraising opportunities to have work go beyond the first year of legislative funding;
- The need for communication support and are identifying how to best move forward; and
- The need to spend time discussing cross over topics.

The Executive Committee also discussed the June meeting agendas. The committee chairs will be meeting again after today's meeting. Have discussed committee work and progress and how the group should continue to work into the future. Made a presentation in Craig on the work of the planning group.

B) **Public Finance.** Wade provided an update. How can public sector can continue to do what it is doing and can it even be expanded. Seven outcomes relating to three levels of government and focused on both spending and revenue. First theme – importance of social security and Medicaid. Average retiree relies on Social Security for 60% of income, while not intended to be that high, it has become the reality. Protection of these programs a formal and specific priority of this workgroup. State revenues are an area of future discussion.

Question was asked if we have a sense of the shortfall – this is some of the research work of Colorado Futures going forward. There is also an opportunity to maximize effectiveness and efficiency of programs to get at both quality and quantity. Need to ask tough questions – i.e. is the homestead exemption a good way to be using limited dollars.

How do we utilize dollars in the best way – that is reflective of values and goals? Talked about creating an entity whose goal would be to coordinate efforts across agencies and to make sure reflecting values and goals.

Recognized the need to be creative in financing. We will have to look at other options – a focus on potential public-private partnerships.

Comment from Hillary Lum – have you thought about or involved Veterans Affairs in thinking and the need for increased coordination would be great to reflect in strategic vision. Hillary can provide some language.

Rob wanted to make sure do not ignore opportunities to use local dollars to draw down federal dollars.

- C) **Workforce Development.** Christian provided an update. Have been engaging outside stakeholders in the committee discussions of the framework to see if anything missing.

There are four key pieces that need to come in alignment reflected in the outcomes. Hoping to get additional data and targets where there is data available. Need to also to some interfacing with other committees – workforce as it relates to health and wellness, transportation, etc., to ensure that we are aligned.

Question were raised around identifying key industries facing shortfalls – Rob shared that a key industry document talked about the shortage in transportation at the same time want to give older adults opportunities to be car free.

Susan asked about what were the needs related to retraining. The committee has not focused on this as much but today's meeting will address some of that.

Wade raised the issue about how do we change attitudes about people having to retire when they actually want to stay in the workforce. #4 tries to address workforce culture pieces. Needs to be some media attention on the barriers and attitudes. Alter the attitudes of those in the workforce – employers, younger workers, workers in general.

Education about opportunities to volunteer – coordinate opportunities – changing attitudes to allow for engagement opportunities within a community and what is the level of work to value their expertise.

Sharron said should promote entrepreneurship as an opportunity and a support system – Christian identified 1c as a place that concept lives in – important piece but can be more explicit with entrepreneurship.

Dale raised the issue of reasonable accommodation awareness – a discussion in objectives – discussed in terms of flexibility in workplace – in there implicitly but maybe need to be more explicit in terms of what is meant.

Importance of media as a strategy. Wade commented on the dual role of communications committee – promoting work of SAPGA and a coordination role related across strategies. Linda raised the value of pushing out key messages.

Susan asked if there is an opportunity for governments to have volunteer programs at the local and federal level. Committee will look at that. Some of the state and federal parks offer volunteer opportunities. Phoenix has one of the best volunteer programs – could be good to look at, but need someone to coordinate that effort. Wade a great example of how could stretch dollars.

Steve commented on the tie in to work force and public finance – if seniors could work as long as want or need to so able to increase revenue and staying in places longer. Might depend on the job itself – the physicality of the job might prevent that. Need to think about lower and middle income jobs and what would mean to stay at that job. Can we leverage the skills known by lower and middle income to start apprenticeships?

Jim shared article new survey of older adults and exiting the workforce is no longer a reality for those 65+. Four out of 10 reported wanting to change career fields. One quarter say will never retire. Those 65+ are working an average of 31 hours per week.

- D) **Health and Wellness.** Sharron provided an update. With a focus on medical homes and patient centered care, transitions, wellbeing, and fostering programs that are known to maintain health and wellness. She walked through the framework.

Questions raised about how do you do this coordination – highlighted key themes but not a clear answer of who. Happens best at community level but needs more coordination with other parts of the system.

Wade raised questions about can we start earlier to have a greater impact. Have looked at but at the same time need to focus resources on the needs within 50+. Are leverage points with efforts like the opportunity project. Dave acknowledged falls more in supportive communities and the creation of healthy communities.

Comments raised to better call out needs related to behavioral health and chronic disease.

- E) **Communications and Outreach Committee.** Wade provided an update. Recognized the dual role of the committee – coordination and information were a key part of the reports today. Losing a member as Barbara Raynor is moving to the east coast. Welcome any additional members interested in this work. Identify key decision-makers and influencers of the work. Identifying compelling issues coming through committee and how might want to deal with that. Identified the need for additional help in push out information and having a media presence and put forward a proposal to potential use additional help from Keystone.
 - F) **Technical Advisory Committee.** Karen Brown reported out. Did not have a meeting this past month. Work had been focused on identifying presenters for the committee. Encouraged the use of the literature review.
- V) Brad Calvert presenting on the Boomer Bond running for 31/2-4 years to think what would mean to be more age friendly. Have approached from the notion that communities can facilitate healthy and successful aging. Decisions made at the local level impacts this. Resource directory on the DRCOG website – an inventory of best practices. Went through presentation. Locally owned effort not DRCOG driven.

Questions:

Wade – can we see the tool? Not online – can share but likes to make the direct conversation. Need for greater coordination – not a single place or staff person responsible – thoughts or advice? This is informed by conversations at a local level – not happening at a local level – aging lens means all making decision understands issues and how will decision impact older adults. Not sure can live with one person/one entity.

- VI) Other Business
- A) Jim and Lorez provided an update on the status of the research consultants
 - B) Next Two Meetings of the Planning Group
 - 1) June 13 and June 27
 - C) Jean wanted to recognize the issue of competing resources in the report
 - D) Wade reviewed the social media effort for SAPGA
 - E) November is potentially national caregivers month
 - F) Presenting to county commissioners at their summer meeting and metro commissioners and staff on June 3.

VII) Public Comment

- A) None

VIII) Next Meeting: May 23, 2016

IX) The meeting adjourned at 12:02pm.